

# KOMBINIRANI METODI ZA NISKOPROCENTNI NIKLONOSNI LATERITI

**BORIS KRSTEV**

**University "St Kiril & Metodius"-Skopje  
Faculty of Mining&Geology-Stip  
Republic of Macedonia**

## **A b s t r a c t**

A combination of current trends and developments may undermine the sulphides supremacy and might tip the balance in favour of laterites for new investigations or projects. A list of current laterite operations or laterites processing today is following: Ferronickel smelting, Matte smelting, Reduction roasting-ammonia leaching and High pressure sulphuric acid leaching.

Apart from the above mentioned process routes, there have been many attempts to develop processes know as alternative processes, which have included: Nitric acid leaching, Chlorine leaching, Acid pugging and Sulphation roast, especially Segregation Process etc.

In this paper will be shown the investigations of the segregation-flotation-magnetic separation-ammonia leaching of the low - grade nickel bearing laterites and appropriate comparison about obtained recoveries between these processes.

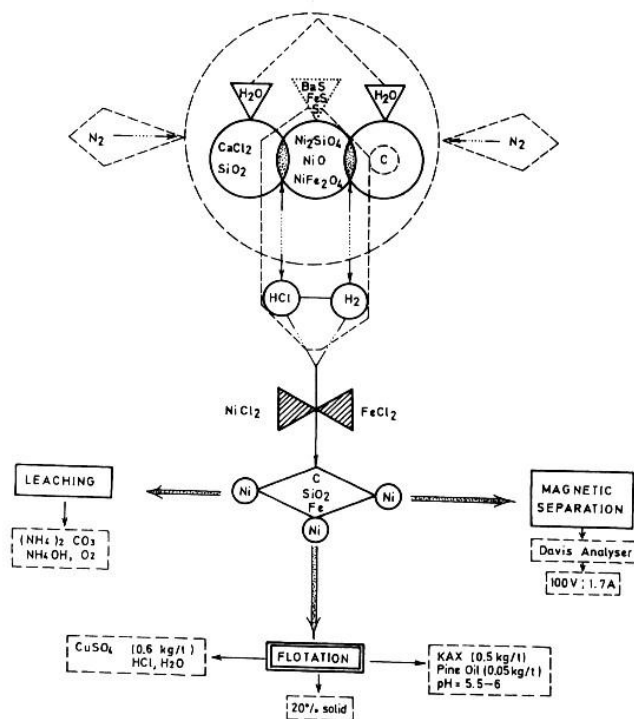
## **1. Voved**

Vo me|uvreme niedna od sovremenite i napredni postapki ne gi premina pragovite na laboratoriski ili poluindustrijski ispituvawa, poradi razni tehni~ki, ekonomski i ekolo{ki faktori ili problemi. Me|utoa, obnoveniot interes za lateritnite minerali vo 90-tite godini potikna određen broj na novi mo`nosti i nade`ni postapki, a voedno go za`ivea interesot i kon nekoj postari istra`uvani postapki za tretirawe na lateritnite niklonosni rudi.

Ist e slu~ajot za interesot i perspektivata za segregacijski proces. Prethodnite istra`uvawa vo oblasta na hloriraweto na metalnite soedinenija, osobeno hloriraweto ili halogenizacija na refraktorni niklonosni minerali: garnierit i nontronit so hlor, HCl, NaCl ili CaCl<sub>2</sub>, gi determiniraa pravcite na spomnatite procesi za tretman na niskoprocentni i kompleksni

minerali-lateriti. Principielnata {ema na segregaciski proces e prosleden so klasi~nite koncentraciski metodi - flotacija ili magnetska separacija i hidrometalur{ki tretman - amonija~no lu`ewe, kako {to e prika`ano na slika 1.

Kombiniranite metodi za obogatuvawe na oksidno-silikatnite niklonosni rudi se sostojat vo zagrevawe na rudata vo prisustvo na koks i  $\text{CaCl}_2$  na visoka temperatura, pri {to se sozdava metalen nikel vrz prisutniot koks, ili na silikatite koi se sostavni delovi od rudata. Prisutni se slednite ~ekori, soglasno na prika`anaa {ema: sozdavawe na  $\text{HCl}$  i  $\text{H}_2$ ; hlorirawe na Ni-feritite i Ni-silikatite do Ni-hloridi i Fe-hloridi, a pri reakcija na redukcija se sozdava Ni-metal na par~iwata od koks ili na par~iwata od kvarc. Slednite ~ekori se flotacija, magnetska koncentracija ili amonija~no lu`ewe i sozdavawe na Ni-metal.



Slika 1. Principielna {ema na segregaciski proces

**Serpentine:**  $\text{Mg}_6(\text{Si}_4\text{O}_{10})(\text{OH})_8$

$\text{Fe}^{2+}, \text{Fe}^{3+}$   
Al; Cr

$\text{Fe}^{3+}, \text{Al}; \text{Cr}$

$(\text{Mg}, \text{Fe}^{2+}, \text{Ni})_{6-x}(\text{Fe}^{3+}, \text{Al}, \text{Cr})_x / \text{Si}_{4-x}(\text{Fe}^{3+}, \text{Al}, \text{Cr})_x \text{O}_{10} / (\text{OH})_8$

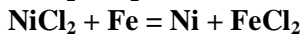
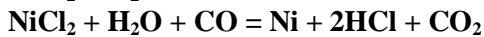
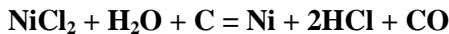
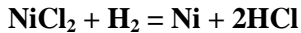
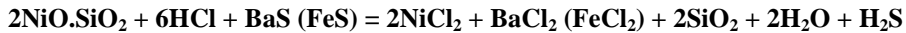
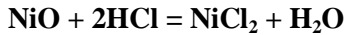
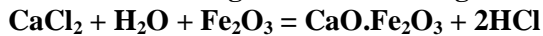
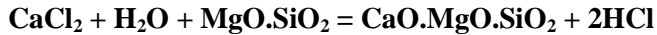
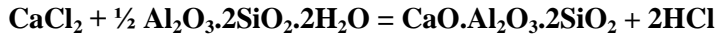
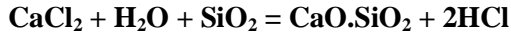
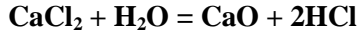
**Talc:**  $(\text{Mg}, \text{Ni})_3(\text{Si}_4\text{O}_{10})(\text{OH})_2 \text{H}_2\text{O}$

$\text{Fe}^{3+}, \text{Fe}^{2+}$

Al



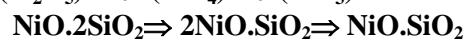
Slednite hemiski reakcii ja objasnuvat {emata i kompleksniot visokotemperaturen segregaciski proces:



Termodinami~kite karakterisiki na gorespomnatite reakcii se izvedeni soglasno na standardnite izobarni potencijali, dodeka za objasnuvawe na kineti~kite karakteristiki za hlorirawe-segregaciski proces se primeneti ravenki koi ja opi{uvaat reakcijata kontrolirana so tri-dimenzionalno napreduvawe (difuziski-kontrolirani reakcii i reaktiviski-kontrolirani reakcii).

## 2. Op{to ponesuvawe na niklonosnite minerali

Za presmetki na Ni vo oksidno-silikatnite minerali, pojavata na nikelot mo`e da se prika`e preku slednata generalna formula ili preku mo`nata transformacija:



*olivine*



*piroxen*

**amorfna kristalna struktura  $\Rightarrow \Rightarrow$  stabilna kristalna struktura**

@elezoto vo ovie niklonsni minerali i rudi se pojavuva kako  $\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3 \cdot n\text{H}_2\text{O}$  i kako nontronit  $(\text{Fe,Al})_2(\text{Si}_4\text{O}_{10})(\text{OH})_2 \cdot n\text{H}_2\text{O}$ . Oksidno-laterit-nite

rudi se so niska sođr`ina na nikel. Generalno, nikelot i  
`elezoto se vo forma na Ni-Fe-limonit (Fe,Ni)O(OH).nH<sub>2</sub>O ili vo talk forma.

### 3. Eksperimentalni istra`uvawa na nikel-sinteti~ki smesi so segregaciski proces

Segregaciski ot proces na nikel-sinteti~ki smesi (NiO, NiO.Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>,  
2NiO.SiO<sub>2</sub>) so jalovi mineralni soedinenija (CaO, MgO, Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>, SiO<sub>2</sub>) i  
hlori-rawe so dodavawe na CaCl<sub>2</sub>.2H<sub>2</sub>O, redukcija so koks pri  
temperatura od (1023-1223°K) so vreme na zadr`uvawe od (20-120 min) vo  
atmosfera na N<sub>2</sub>.

Tabela 1. Hemiski sostav na sinteti~kite smesi

Soedinenie	Sinteti~ki smesi (%)		
	I	II	III
NiO	1.36	–	–
Ni <sub>2</sub> SiO <sub>4</sub>	–	1.91	–
NiFe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	–	–	4.28
Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	20.00	20.00	20.00
SiO <sub>2</sub>	56.00	56.00	56.00
Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	5.00	5.00	5.00
CaO	1.00	1.00	1.00
MgO	6.14	5.59	3.22
CaCl <sub>2</sub>	7.50	7.50	7.50
C	1.00	1.00	1.00
BaS	2.00	2.00	2.00
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00
Ni (%)	1.07	1.07	1.07

Tabela 2. Rezultati dobieni so **segregacija-flotacija-magnetska  
koncentracija-amonija~no lu`ewe**

Smesa	T (°C)	t (min)	Flotacija	Magnet. sep.	Lu`ewe
			R <sub>Ni</sub> (%)	R <sub>Ni</sub> (%)	R <sub>Ni</sub> (%)
I NiO + 2% BaS	750	20	1.62	1.50	1.70
		40	3.41	3.05	3.65
		60	3.89	3.20	4.10
	850	20	8.43	7.80	8.70
		40	17.66	16.50	18.25
		60	25.43	21.25	27.10
	950	120	45.40	42.30	46.50
		20	28.32	25.10	30.05
		40	40.78	37.20	42.45
		60	44.78	40.00	5.75
		120	60.98	56.70	65.10
	750	20	1.90	1.70	2.15
		40	3.82	3.25	4.20
		60	5.48	4.85	6.10
		20	14.36	12.10	16.10

II Ni <sub>2</sub> SiO <sub>4</sub> + 2% BaS	850	40	25.17	22.10	27.10
		60	37.40	33.45	40.00
		120	55.60	51.50	56.50
	950	20	36.85	32.40	39.60
		40	47.24	43.70	50.00
		60	58.73	55.10	64.05
		120	76.35	71.35	78.40
III NiFe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>4</sub> + 2% BaS	750	20	2.18	1.70	2.55
		40	3.82	3.25	4.20
		60	6.84	5.25	7.65
	850	20	17.55	16.50	18.25
		40	28.40	25.05	30.00
		60	44.65	40.00	46.00
	950	120	58.60	55.00	61.30
		20	33.42	30.15	35.10
		40	50.41	44.10	52.05
		60	59.25	56.00	65.00
		120	80.70	76.40	82.10

#### 4. Eksperimentalni istra`uvawa nas prirodni niklonosni rudi so segregaciski proces

Eksperimentalnite istra`uvawa so dodatok na aktivator 2% (BaS, FeS, S ili BaSO<sub>4</sub>) vlijae na tehnolo{kite pokazateli pri kombinirani procesi **segregacija-flotacija-magnetska separacija-amonija~no lu`ewe** kako {to e prika`ano za rudni probi od razni lokaliteti. Parcijalnite hemiski sastavi na rudnite probi (100% - 0,150 mm i 100% - 0,100 mm) se od 0,85% Ni Studena voda, 0,97% Ni R`anovo (dvete od Makedonija), 1,2% Ni i 1,86% Ni Ruxinci I & II (Jugoslavija).

Tabela 3. Rezultati dobieni so segregacija-flotacija na rudni probi (100% -0.150mm)

Rudna proba	BaS	(%), R <sub>Ni</sub>		
	(%)	Flotacija	Magnet. separ.	Lu`ewe
St. Voda	0.0	36.50	34.70	37.20
	2.0	45.45	42.85	46.10
	3.5	60.70	55.60	62.35
R`anovo	0.0	36.85	35.30	87.60
	2.0	47.10	46.60	48.20
	3.5	62.30	60.70	65.10
Ruxnci I	0.0	42.50	40.25	43.10
	2.0	48.60	45.30	50.20
	3.5	65.00	63.20	66.75
Ruxnci II	0,0	46.00	41.75	47.05
	2,0			
	3,5			
		68.00	65.30	70.20
		78.00	73.60	80.30

Tabela 4. Rezultasti dobieni so segregacija- flotacija-magnetska separacija-lu`ewe na rudni robi (100% -0.150mm)

Rudna proba	Dodatok (%)	Flotacija	Iskorist.	
			(%) $R_{Ni}$ Magnet. separac.	Lu`ewe
Studena Voda	2.0% FeS	47.00	44.35	48.35
	3.5% FeS	60.70	56.70	62.75
	2.0% BaS	47.05	44.35	50.10
	3.5% BaS	61.10	57.00	63.25
	2.0% BaSO <sub>4</sub>	45.20	42.30	47.05
	3.5% BaSO <sub>4</sub>	60.10	56.00	64.10
R`anovo	2.0% FeS	49.50	47.20	52.30
	3.5% FeS	61.50	56.35	63.50
	2.0% BaS	50.25	48.10	53.10
	3.5% BaS	60.10	56.00	64.10
	2.0% BaSO <sub>4</sub>	49.80	48.00	51.40
	3.5% BaSO <sub>4</sub>	60.50	56.10	64.00
Ruxinci II	2.0% FeS	79.60	76.30	81.85
	3.5% FeS	80.50	79.10	83.10
	2.0 % BaS	82.40	78.25	85.00
	3.5% BaS	76.50	73.45	80.00
	2.0% BaSO <sub>4</sub>	70.30	65.30	74.00
	3.5% BaSO <sub>4</sub>	76.50	73.45	78.00

## 5. Zaklu~ok

Kombiniranite procesi **segregacija-flotacija-magnetska separacija- amonija~no lu`ewe** na sinteti~ki smesi i soodvetni rudni probi (so razli~na so dr`ina na nikel vo niv) obezbeduvaat zadovoljitelni rezultati vo odnos na iskoristuvawe na metal. Postoe~kite ekolo{ki problemi }e dovedat do zgolemuwawe na interesot kon kombiniranite metodi ili hidrometalur{kite procesi. Ovi }e vku~at kombinirawe na slednite procesi: **segregacija-flotacija-amonija~no lu`ewe** ili nekoi drugi procesi kako {to se oksidacija ili biooksidacija.

## Literatura

1. KRSTEV B.: Research into Possibilities of Intenzification of Segregation Roasting of Laterite Nickel Ores at Localite from Cikatovo and Rudjinci Subject to Nickel Concentration, TEHNIKA, RGM 38 1987, N° 2, p.171-174, Belgrade, YU
2. KRSTEV B.: Detarmination of Possibility of the Segregation Process Intenzification Nickel from Ni-ores by Goles Locality, Third Meeting of CTK & Second YU Symposium of RM, Pristina, YU, 1986
3. KRSTEV B.: Summary of a Situation from Laboratory Investigation of Yugoslav Nickel Bearing Ores by Segregation-Flotation-Magnetic Separation, IV Symposium of Metal-lurgy, SHD, Belgrade, YU, 1988
4. KRSTEV B.: A Contribution of Research by Chlorinat on from Nickelsilicate and Nickelferite in the Presence of Calciumchloride and Coke with Possibilities of their Intenzification, IV Symposium of Metallurgy, SHD, Belgrade, YU, 1988

5. KRSTEV B.: The Kinetic of the Flotation Process by Chlorinated Nickel Compounds from Mixures after Segregation, YU-Simposium of Mineral Processing, Smederevo, YU, 1995
6. TAYLOR A.: Laterites-has the time finally come, Mining Magazine, 1995
7. TAYLOR A.: Nickel Laterites Processing, Mining Magazine, 1996
8. KRSTEV B.: Processing of Low-Grade Nickel Bearing Laterites, NEW TREND in MINERAL ROCESSING, Ostrava, Chech Republic 1999